The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) has submitted various suggestions/inputs to the Government which *inter-alia* include issues relating to off-net calls, on-net calls, inter-circle long distance tariffs, high carriage charge, mobile termination charge, revenue sharing regime for Access Deficit Charge, desirability to merge Access Deficit Charge with Universal Service Obligation Fund, reduction in licence fee to 6% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR), reduction in spectrum usage charges and setting up a small committee comprising of representatives from Department of Telecom and concerned stakeholders such as Cellular Operators Association of India, Association of Unified Telecom Operators Association of India, Association of Unified Telecom Service Providers of India (AUSPI) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. So far, no decision has been taken to set up implementation Committee.

(e) Does not arise in view of (a) to (d) above.

Congestion at Inter-Connection Level

3229. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently brought out a Network Congestion Report revealing an alarming degree of congestion between the operators in several cities;

(b) whether the report has found that 193 locations had congestion level of 10 per cent at points of interconnection;

(c) whether the regulator's (TRAI) benchmark for maximum congestion at interconnection level is under 0.5 per cent; and

(d) whether the congestion at the interconnection level at worst affected locations is at 40 per cent or more?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per Quality of Service Regulation for Basic and Cellular Mobile Services, 2005, notified on 8th July, 2005, the benchmark for Point of Interconnection (Pol) congestion is less than 0.5%.

(d) Yes, Sir.